

ner, and I recollect he perpetually offered apologies for his involuntary breach of good manners. This, however, did not hinder him from being guilty of the same offence the next evening. I will presently explain the cause of this regular siesta.

On the King of Spain's birthday the Marquis de la Romana gave a magnificent entertainment. The decorations of the hall-room consisted of military emblems. The Marquis did the honors with infinite grace, and paid particular attention to the French generals. He always spoke of the Emperor in very respectful terms, without any appearance of affectation, so that it was impossible to suspect him of harboring disaffection. He played his part to the last with the utmost address. At Hamburg we had already received intelligence of the fatal result of the battle of the Sierra Morena,<sup>1</sup> and of the capitulation of Dupout, which disgraced him at the very moment when the whole army marked him out as the man most likely next to receive the *Imfou* of Marshal of France,

Meanwhile the Marquis de la Romana departed for the Danish island of Funen, in compliance with the order which Marshal Bernadotte had transmitted to him. There, as at Hamburg, the Spaniards were well liked, for their general obliged them to observe the strictest discipline. Great preparations were made in Hamburg on the approach of Saint Napoleon's day, which was then celebrated with much solemnity in every town in which I'Yanee had representatives. The Prince de Ponte-Corvo was at Travemunde, a small seaport near Liibeck, but that did not prevent him from giving directions for the festival of the 15th of August. The Marquis de la Romana, the better to deceive the Marshal, despatched a courier, requesting permission to visit Hamburg on the day of the/cite in order to join his prayers to those, of the, French, and to receive, on the day of the./>\*/«, from the hands of the Prince, the grand order of the Legion of Honor, which he had solicited, and which Napoleon had granted him. Three\*, days after Bernadotte received intelligence of the defection of de la Romana. The Marquis had contrived to assemble a great

<sup>1</sup> The Hurnuuler of General Duponl at Baylcn.